

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 03226 140218Z

73

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /103 W

----- 124095

P R 130124Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8450

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3226

COLOMBO FOR KATZEN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: INSC, PFOR, XA, SF, WA

SUBJECT: UN SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF NAMIBIA

1. UNSC PRESIDENT, AMBASSADOR ABE (JAPAN), ASKED TO CONSULT WITH AMBASSADOR BENNETT FOLLOWING AUGUST 13 COUNCIL MEETING ON THE AEGEAN PROBLEM. HE SAID HE WAS PLANNING INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE THREE AFRICAN MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, TANZANIA, BENIN, AND LIBYA, CONCERNING THE COUNCIL'S HANDLING OF NAMIBIA. THE PRINCIPAL QUESTION ON WHICH HE IS SEEKING VIEWS IS THE HANDLING OF THE NAMIBIA PROBLEM IN LIGHT OF THE AUGUST 31 DEADLINE ESTABLISHED IN THE COUNCIL'S JANUARY 1976 RESOLUTION. AMBASSADOR ABE NOTED THAT HE HAD READ REAPORTS IN THE PRESS THAT THE US IS CONDUCTING TALKS ON NAMIBIA AND ASKED FOR ANY BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF THOSE TALKS THAT MIGHT PROPERLY BE REVEALED TO HIM.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 03226 140218Z

2. AMBASSADOR BENNETT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT DISCUSSIONS WERE IN

PROGRESS, BUT SAID HE WAS NOT INFORMED TO CONTENT. HE ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED TO MAKE AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT SOON, BUT HE HAS NO DETAILS ON THE EXPECTED NATURE OF THAT ANNOUNCEMENT. HE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT, ACCORDING TO INFORMAL REPORTS WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM COLOMBO AND ELSEWHERE, THERE IS TALK IN AFRICAN CIRCLES OF POSTPONING THE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF NAMIBIA IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL UNTIL SEPTEMBER 14, OSTENSIBLY TO PERMIT THE ARRIVAL OF SOME FOREIGN MINISTERS AND THUS A HIGHER-LEVEL DEBATE. AMBASSADOR BENNETT SAID HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON THE MATTER, BUT PERSONALLY ASSUMED THAT IF THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WERE TO DECIDE SO, THERE IS NO REASON THAT THE COUNCIL COULD NOT DELAY ITS SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS ON NAMIBIA BEYOND THE AUGUST 31 DEADLINE.

3. AMBASSADOR ABE ASKED IF THE UNITED STATES WOULD HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH SUCH A POSTPONEMENT, AND AMBASSADOR BENNETT SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO ASK THE VIEWS OF THE DEPARTMENT BUT HE FELT WE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY WITH SUCH A DECISION. AMBASSADOR ABE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE TOO HAD UNDERSTOOD THAT THERE WAS SOME TALK AMONG THE AFRICANS OF POSTPONEMENT AND INDICATED THAT THE COUNCIL'S DEBATE ON NAMIBIA MAY VERY WELL SLIP UNTIL A DATE IN SEPTEMBER. HE SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT A PRO FORMA MEETING OF THE COUNCIL MIGHT BE HELD BEFORE AUGUST 31 TO HONOR THE TERMS OF THE JANUARY RESOLUTION, BUT THE COUNCIL MIGHT THEN DECIDE TO DEFER SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF THE SUBJECT UNTIL LATER. AMBASSADOR BENNETT INDICATED THAT THE US WOULD PROBABLY HAVE NO DIFFICULTY WITH THE HOLDING OF SUCH A MEETING IN AUGUST AND POSTPONEMENT OF THE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION.

4. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR ABE MAY FIND IT DIFFICULT TO ELICIT A CLEAR CONSENSUS FROM HIS INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS; THE THREE AFRICAN PERM REPS ARE ALL AWAY FROM NEW YORK, FOR ONE THING. WE UNDERSTAND FROM HIS STAFF THAT ABE IS NOT AT ALL ANIOUS TO CHAIR THE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION ON NAMIBIA THIS MONTH. POSSIBILITY OF POSTPONEMENT IS MORE CONCLUSIVELY BASED IN INFORMAL AFRICAN COMMUNITY TALK ON FACT THAT COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA PLANS TO SEND MISSION, POSSIBLY INCLUDING COUNCIL PRESIDENT, TO SOUTHERN AFRICA IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. APPRECIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 03226 140218Z

RECEIVING ANY OBJECTIONS THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT HAVE TO ABE'S SUGGESTION OF POSTPONEMENT OF THE SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE ON NAMIBIA. END COMMENT.
BENNETT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, SELFDETERMINATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN03226
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760312-0913
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760854/aaaabujk.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF NAMIBIA
TAGS: PFOR, XA, SF, WA, UNSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006